Calcutta and Gujarat. As regards rural housing schemes, the HDFC has preferred to watch the progress of its Rural Housing Corporation set up in Gujarat State.

Scheduled Banks:

The State Bank of Travancore has agreed in principle to meet 30 per cent of the cost of the Rural Housing Project in two districts of Kerala. The share of the Bank comes to Rs. 39.60 lakhs. The Bank of Maharashtra has also allocated a sum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs for co-financing Rural Housing Scheme during 1986.

A proposal has also been sent to Delhi Cooperative Housing Finance Society, but there is no response from them so far.

(c) During the Seventh Plan period, HUDCO tentatively proposes to sanction schemes worth Rs. 1845 crores.

684. [*Transferred to the 28th November, 1985*].

Chambal command area development at Kota

685. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that progress of second phase of the Chambal Command Area Development at Kota in Rajasthan has virtually stopped; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The Second Phase of the Chambal Command Area Development Project at Kota in Rajasthan has not as yet been taken up for implementation by the State Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Minorities Commission

686. SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment with regard to the functioning of the Minorities Commission in changing the destiny of the minorities;

(b) whether the Minorities Commission is presently without Members;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to wind up the Commission which has almost become defunct?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) to (d) The Minorities Commission has so far submitted six Annual Reports out of which four Annual Reports together with the Action Taken Memoranda on the various recommendations have already been laid on the Table of the House. In the light of the reports submitted by the Commission it is not correct to say that the Minorities Commission has become defunct. Minorities Commission had recently organized a seminar on Minorities & Education on 16th & 17th November, 1985. Posts of four Members of the Commission had fallen vacant in the recent past due to expiry of tenure of the Members. One post has since been filled up on the joining of a new Member. There is no proposal before the Government to wind up the Commission.

Banning the use of pesticides

687. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(c) whether a recent study conducted by the IARI has revealed growing dangers to human health and environments with the indiscriminate and increasing use of certain pesti-